

## Senate Resolution 951

By: Senators Butterworth of the 50th, Mullis of the 53rd, Crosby of the 13th, Chapman of the 3rd, Heath of the 31st and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Georgia's rural hospitals and HomeTown Health; and for  
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, quality and accessible health care is a vital need for citizens all over Georgia;  
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Georgia's rural hospital network was developed many years ago to serve rural  
6 communities with acute primary health care; and

7 WHEREAS, Georgia's rural hospitals serve as a vital link to life for Georgians of all ages,  
8 providing necessary health care during tragedies, natural catastrophes, and accidents; and

9 WHEREAS, patients of Georgia's rural hospitals are predominantly patients that rely upon  
10 Medicare and medicaid or are uninsured and pay for their own medical bills without provider  
11 assistance; and

12 WHEREAS, even though Georgia's rural hospitals are usually in the top four employers of  
13 a community and are major economic engines for the areas they serve, these important  
14 institutions struggle daily to overcome physician and nursing shortages in order to provide  
15 efficient, quality health care to their communities; and

16 WHEREAS, Georgia's rural hospitals are instrumental to the overall health care system of  
17 Georgia, relieving congestion and crowding at major regional hospitals by providing  
18 necessary tertiary and primary health care services; and

19 WHEREAS, in order to share best practices and collaborate in funding efforts, Georgia's  
20 rural hospitals united to form a Georgia rural hospital business association named  
21 HomeTown Health; and

22 WHEREAS, HomeTown Health and its members are dedicated to advocating on behalf of  
23 rural hospitals in Georgia, and their efforts to obtain additional sources of funding for rural  
24 hospitals and ensure effective health care for Georgians is worthy of recognition.

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
26 commend the efforts of HomeTown Health and all rural hospitals in Georgia in providing  
27 first-class health care to residents of rural Georgia.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
29 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to HomeTown Health.